New Magazine Rankings Place Ohio, Columbus Among Top Ten Nationally

Even before voters get a chance this fall to consider borrowing millions for Governor Bob Taft's Third Frontier program, two new magazine rankings Thursday showed Ohio already is among the Top 10 sites nationally for technology.

<u>Small Times "magazine named Ohio one of the nation's Top 10 nanotechnology "hot spots" for the second year in a row. Popular Science magazine ranked the City of Columbus 7th among top tech cities in the nation.</u>

Small Times rated each state in six categories, based on data from at least a dozen federal research agencies and commercial analysis firms. Ohio held on to the 10th spot in the overall rankings, while rising four spots from last year to claim 10th in the research category.

<u>Science</u> Science <u> ranked the nation's cities based on technology indicators such as the research and development budgets at universities, and hospital use of robotic surgery. Columbus placed 7th on the list, while Cincinnati was 38th, Cleveland 72nd, Dayton/Springfield 93rd, and Toledo 101st.</u>

Initiatives of The Ohio State University, which publicized the magazine rankings in a news release, played a role in each assessment. Listed among the state's pluses was OSU's recent \$12.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation to create a Nanotech Science and Engineering Center. Ohio State received more than \$500 million in research funding during 2004. In 1999, OSU Medical Center was the first in North America to use a new minimally invasive heart surgery technique utilizing robotic technology.